

Applicant : Mark Hamm  
Appl. No. : 10/039,627  
Examiner : Hae M. Hyeon  
Docket No. : 701470.18

In the claims:

Claims 1-15 (Cancelled).

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16. (Previously amended) An optical catheter connector, comprising:  
a flexible hollow catheter ferrule;  
a rigid retainer housed inside the catheter ferrule, wherein the retainer has  
at least two cutouts;  
a fiber connector housed inside the retainer;  
an optical fiber positioned along a rotational axis of the fiber connector;  
and;  
a connector bushing housed inside the retainer, wherein the connector  
bushing is attached to the fiber connector.

17. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the openings in the  
retainer are elliptical.

18. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the catheter ferrule  
is made of a flexible polymer.

19. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the retainer is  
made of polycarbonate.

20. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, wherein the retainer is  
made of plastic.

21. (Original) The catheter connector of claim 16, further comprising a shield  
surrounding the other surface of the catheter ferrule.

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Claims 22-33 (Cancelled).